

must indicate the existence of such a medical variance on the CDLIS driver record and the CDL document, if issued, using the restriction code “V” to indicate there is information about a medical variance on the CDLIS driver record.

NOTE: In accordance with the agreement between Canada and the United States (see footnote to §391.41 of this chapter), drivers with a medical variance restriction code on their CDL are restricted from operating a CMV in the other country.

[76 FR 26887, May 9, 2011]

Subpart G—Required Knowledge and Skills

SOURCE: 53 FR 27654, July 21, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§ 383.110 General requirement.

All drivers of CMVs must have the knowledge and skills necessary to operate a CMV safely as contained in this subpart. The specific types of items that a State must include in the knowledge and skills tests that it administers to CDL applicants are included in this subpart.

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§ 383.111 Required knowledge.

(a) All CMV operators must have knowledge of the following 20 general areas:

(1) *Safe operations regulations.* Driver-related elements of the regulations contained in parts 391, 392, 393, 395, 396, and 397 of this subchapter, such as:

- (i) Motor vehicle inspection, repair, and maintenance requirements;
- (ii) Procedures for safe vehicle operations;
- (iii) The effects of fatigue, poor vision, hearing impairment, and general health upon safe commercial motor vehicle operation;
- (iv) The types of motor vehicles and cargoes subject to the requirements contained in part 397 of this subchapter; and
- (v) The effects of alcohol and drug use upon safe commercial motor vehicle operations.

(2) *Safe vehicle control systems.* The purpose and function of the controls

and instruments commonly found on CMVs.

(3) *CMV safety control systems.* (i) Proper use of the motor vehicle's safety system, including lights, horns, side and rear-view mirrors, proper mirror adjustments, fire extinguishers, symptoms of improper operation revealed through instruments, motor vehicle operation characteristics, and diagnosing malfunctions.

(ii) CMV drivers must have knowledge of the correct procedures needed to use these safety systems in an emergency situation, e.g., skids and loss of brakes.

(4) *Basic control.* The proper procedures for performing various basic maneuvers, including:

- (i) Starting, warming up, and shutting down the engine;
- (ii) Putting the vehicle in motion and stopping;
- (iii) Backing in a straight line; and
- (iv) Turning the vehicle, e.g., basic rules, off tracking, right/left turns and right curves.

(5) *Shifting.* The basic shifting rules and terms for common transmissions, including:

- (i) Key elements of shifting, e.g., controls, when to shift, and double clutching;
- (ii) Shift patterns and procedures; and
- (iii) Consequences of improper shifting.

(6) *Backing.* The procedures and rules for various backing maneuvers, including:

- (i) Backing principles and rules; and
- (ii) Basic backing maneuvers, e.g., straight-line backing, and backing on a curved path.

(7) *Visual search.* The importance of proper visual search, and proper visual search methods, including:

- (i) Seeing ahead and to the sides;
- (ii) Use of mirrors; and
- (iii) Seeing to the rear.

(8) *Communication.* The principles and procedures for proper communications and the hazards of failure to signal properly, including:

- (i) Signaling intent, e.g., signaling when changing direction in traffic;
- (ii) Communicating presence, e.g., using horn or lights to signal presence; and